GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6435
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2000
AFFORESTATION OF DEGRADED LAND
GADDE RAMAMOHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI;SHIVAJI MANE

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Union Government to persuade the States to part with land for afforestation, reclaiming more wasteland and degraded land during the last one year;

(b) the success achieved by each State during the said period, State-wise; and

(c) the area of wasteland and degraded land brought into afforestation by each State so far alongwith the measures adopted to minimise deforestation, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)

(a) to (c) The projects, involving diversion of forest land, submitted by the State Governments to the Ministry of Environment and Forests under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, are cleared on merits but with the essential stipulation of compensatory afforestation for which States have to make available equivalent non-forest land. Afforestation on degraded forest land twice in extent to that of forest land being diverted is considered in certain category of projects only as exception. During the period 1999-2000, the compensatory afforestation was carried out over 46,765 ha. of non-forest/degraded forest land, and the cumulative area brought under compensatory afforestation since inception of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is 3,65,962 ha. A statement showing the State-wise details in this regard is given in Annexure. The guidelines under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 provide due safeguard to ensure that the deforestation is minimal. Developmental projects are given forestry clearance, after careful scrutiny, giving due regard to the ecological and environmental aspects.

Annexure in respect of part (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 6435 due for reply on 8/5/2000 regarding Afforestation of Degraded Land.

Statement showing compensatory afforestation carried out by States since inception of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

S.No.	Name of State/U.T.	Compensatory afforestation done over non-forest land/ degraded forest land during the year 1999 till 31.3.2000 (in ha.)	Total compensatory afforestation carried out over non-forest/ degraded forest land since inception of the Forest (Conservation) Act,1980 (in ha.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	111	12424
2	Arunachal Pradesh	108	923
3	Assam	0	578
4	Bihar	0	68
5	Goa	463	556
6	Gujarat	8793	38054
7	Haryana	289	1367
8	Himachal Pradesh	286	4612
9	Jammu & Kashmir	0	288
10	Karnataka	5587	26140
11	Kerala	12717	35473
12	Madhya Pradesh	9260	121260
13	Maharashtra	4184	65205
14	Manipur	0	0
15	Meghalaya	0	523
16	Mizoram	0	2516
17	Orissa	504	16843
18	Punjab	1867	2094
19	Rajasthan	836	7763
20	Sikkim	58	1517
21	Tamil Nadu	0	1137
22	Tripura	0	1024
23	Uttar Pradesh	0	20751

24	West Bengal	1564	2400
25	A&N Island	138	2184
26	D&N Haveli	0	262
	TOTAL	46,765	3,65,962